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Observer

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CENTRAL
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY

THE OBSERVER

April 6, 2006 - volume 79 number 19

LACK OF
FUNDING
SINGS SAD
SONG FOR
CENTRAL

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SEE
DICK AND
JANE
MAKE ART

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CENTRAL
BASEBALL
STRUGGLES
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From what was to what is: Urbanizing Ellenburg



Stephen Ellis/Observer

One of the major concerns with the new comprehensive plan is location. By bringing commercial growth into the community, business owners could be faced with shrinking revenues.

See story on page 5

Lack of funding limits the power of voice

by Pat Brown
Senior reporter

Freshman theatre performance major Maddie Cartwright has been singing since she was four years old. It's her passion and she hopes to one day work in musical theatre. A musical theatre major is not offered at Central Washington University but Cartwright knew she could major in theatre and minor in music with an emphasis on vocal performance.

To Cartwright's dismay, right before finals week last quarter she found out she was not going to be able to take any voice lessons spring quarter.

"I was really upset. I really enjoy my music professor Mia Spencer," Cartwright said.

Fellow freshman theatre major Hannah Smith is also minoring in music with an emphasis on vocal performance and she had similar feelings about the situation.

"I felt like I was taken out because I'm not good enough, not for financial reasons," Smith said.

Like Cartwright, Smith said she was told she could not take voice lessons in the spring and it was not explained to her why. The lack of communication only added to her frustration.

"I was told they ran out of money," Smith said.

The problem facing the music department is that the Washington state legislature's higher education fund appropriates money on a basis of how many credit hours are offered. Since instruction for music lessons is done one-on-one between the instructor and the student, the music department is unable to account for as many credit hours as other departments.

Peter Gries, chair of the music department, said being under-staffed

and under-funded is nothing new, but it was never this big of a problem until this quarter.

"We've been able to manage it somehow," Gries said. "This quarter it got past the point where we could manage it."

Gries says there are four priority levels classes. The students who get first priority are music majors seeking classes in their major performing area. These students get first priority since that is the emphasis in their studies here. Second priority is music majors trying to take music classes outside their major performance area. For example, a trombone major would have first priority at a trombone lesson but would be second priority trying to get into a piano theory lesson.

"It's almost
miraculous
that we are
where we are."

-Peter Gries
music department
chair

Third priority goes to music minors. Anyone seeking a music lesson as an elective would be fourth priority.

Due to an influx in students and a lack of funding, only first priority students will be admitted to the lessons.

Luckily for Cartwright and Smith, being freshmen, they still can take plenty of other classes needed to satisfy requirements for eventual graduation. Both students find it disheartening that they can't take the lessons they wanted.

Gries said the problem is only temporary.

"It's not going to last forever. We will probably be able to get them in the fall," Gries said. "What we need to do is limit the number of students we accept; to the number [of students] we can teach with integrity."

Gries said this is a department-wide issue but it will primarily affect those seeking voice and piano lessons and to a lesser extent, guitar lessons.

Music majors are accepted as freshmen and their acceptance is determined mainly by a performance audition. The student's performance in Music 104 also plays a factor in their acceptance. Music 104 is a class freshman seeking a major in music take their first quarter instead of University 101. Gries describes the class as a "self-screening" course that helps the students determine if majoring in music is the right choice for them.

Increases in enrollment come with an increase in competition. New factors might have to be taken into account during the screening process. Interviewing prospective majors would be of use in the screening process. This process would be a very tedious practice for an already overburdened faculty.

"This is a whole change in philosophy for us since we used to take anyone who showed promise," Gries said. "We need to make the application process more competitive."

Gries and the rest of music department are doing what they can to make sure a shortage in lesson availability does not happen again. An enrollment management committee was established to combat this problem, made up of Gries and three other music faculty.

Gries says the music department doesn't have enough faculty members

Mitigating factors

The money issue:

- A survey by the National Association of Schools of Music found that programs with 100-200 majors had an average budget of \$280,000
- Central's music department has 273 majors, and a budget of \$175,000

Priority levels for enrollment: (in rank order)

- 1: music majors seeking classes in their performing area
- 2: music majors seeking classes outside of their area
- 3: music minors
- 4: the general student populace

to accommodate all their majors. For this reason, adjuncts have been hired. The hiring of adjuncts is a common practice throughout the university, but the department of music has often had to rely on adjuncts to instruct major courses. The problem this presents is that if there is not enough money to hire the adjuncts, the classes don't get offered.

Central's music program is one of the most highly accredited programs in the state of Washington and receives quite a bit of attention around the rest of the country as well.

An outside evaluator is coming to Central next Monday to determine just where the music department ranks among its competitors.

"It's almost miraculous that we are where we are," Gries said.

According to a data survey conducted by the National Association of Schools of Music from the 2004-2005 school year, the average total budget - excluding faculty salaries - of music departments with 100-200 majors is

\$280,737.

Central, which has 273 music majors, has a total budget of \$175,419.

Central's music department, in the 2004-05 school year, was only able to offer \$26,900 dollars in undergraduate scholarships. No graduate scholarships were offered. The average amount of undergraduate scholarship funding for schools with 200-400 majors is \$255,147.

Smith and Cartwright both plan on transferring to another school next year. Although both say their reason for leaving is not because of the voice lessons.

Cartwright plans on attending New School University in Greenwich Village, NY next spring. She said it has a better program for musical theatre plus she would enjoy the atmosphere.

"I love New York," Cartwright said.

Smith plans on heading to the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York next year or the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

"I can get private voice lessons there," Smith said.

Campus elections kick off this month

by Paul Boutte
Staff reporter

Spring is here, and that means the Associated Students of Central Washington University elections are right around the corner. For anyone interested in getting involved or running for office, this is a great time to take action.

Election packets and applications are available in the Samuelson Union Building, room 214 and students have until April 19 at 4 p.m. to file for positions.

To be eligible, students must have completed at least 30 credits before spring quarter 2006 with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher. Potential candidates must sign an agreement form and pay a \$25 filing fee that is used to advertise the elections.

Candidates must also acquire 100 signatures of support from classmates and submit a statement explaining their platform that is at least 150 words. The field of contenders won't be established until the end of the filing period.

"It's not entirely known who will run, but it should heat up after April 19," Jeff Rosenberry, vice president for Student Life and Facilities, said.

Students who don't want to run for office, yet are still curious to learn more about the candidates, will have the opportunity to witness a night forum which will consist of a

debate between candidates and a question and answer period (time permitting) 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., May 9 in the new recreation center.

Kathryn Ruth, director of community affairs, plans to run again this year for the same position.

"I worked for the election commission the year before I ran for ASCWU; it was a good stepping stone to the student government," Ruth said.

The election commission is responsible for advertising the student elections, not individual contenders. The commission sets up the debate forums, monitors budgets, policies, and maintains a fair environment between the students running for office.

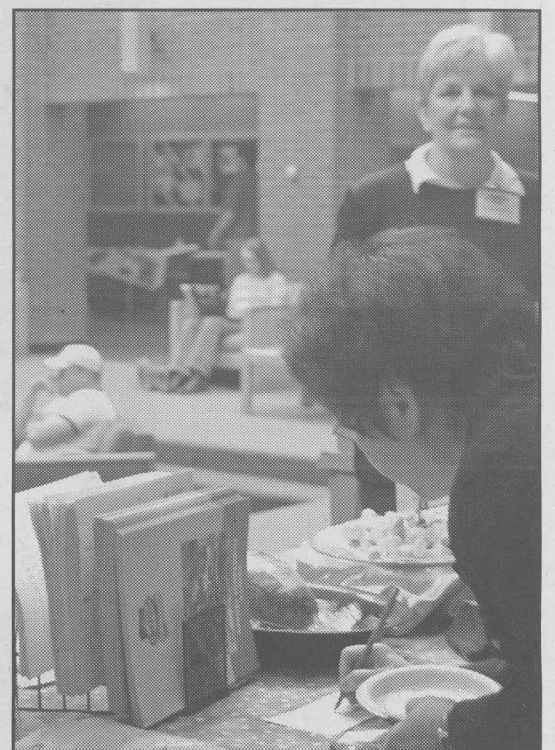
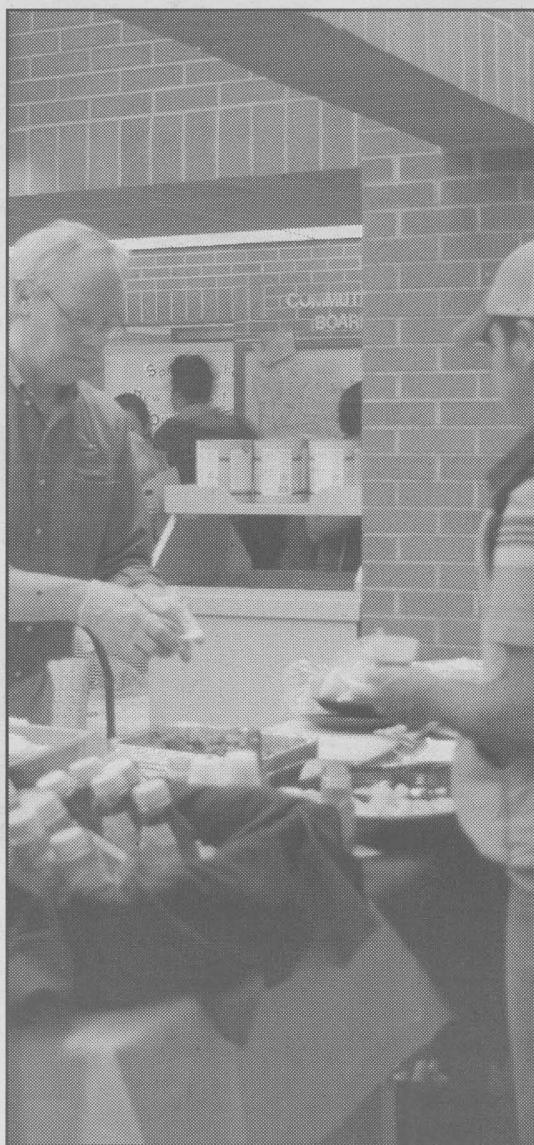
The election commission updates the election code, runs the election, and counts the ballots after students have voted.

"It's kind of fun, we get to count votes all day and see which candidates are pulling ahead," said election commission member Lindsay Jacobson.

According to Jacobson, the job takes about thirty hours of commitment and there are many grey areas in the student constitution that allow room for creativity to the election commission.

Students who are interested in joining should contact Executive Vice President Chris Casey to apply, at 509-963-1698.

Students flock to food fair for National Nutrition Month



Photos by Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Central Washington University hosted a Food Show in the SUB pit Thursday, March 30 from Noon to 4 p.m., sponsored by the Nutrition Science club and CWU Dining Services. Vendors were on hand to let students sample some of the fresh offerings that will be available in the new SUB. LEFT: Miguel Sanchez, senior accounting major, tries a sandwich at the Western Food booth, represented by Scott Nelson. RIGHT: Mary Aho, conference staff member, fills out a form on turkey samples.

Students clean up with new contraption

by Carleigh Lorenz
Staff reporter

The Campus Beautification and Recycling Committee is working to encourage recycling on campus. They have put posters designed by committee member Colin Stewart all around campus, that read, "Recycling is S.E.X.Y. (Smart, Economical, X-tremely You)." The point of the poster is to get students thinking about recycling as part of their routine.

"It was a collective effort with several people involved with the process including everyone from the photographer, make-up artists, the models, to others involved with the design," Stewart said. "There is no person that deserves the credit. Everyone had the idea that we were going to promote recycling in a unique humorous way."

The Campus Beautification and Recycling Committee recently sponsored a "Recycling Bin Challenge." Students all over campus could submit designs for recycling bins. On Mar. 7, students voted for one to be the official recycling bin for the new Student Union Building.

"The purpose of the challenge was to help create some awareness of recycling on campus and get students involved with the process," said Jeff Rosenberry, chair of the Campus Beautification and Recycling Committee.

The winner of the recycling bin challenge was the Circle K group. "The concept was a three sectioned laundry hamper kind of thing, like a stand that has the three sections, whites, darks and bright colors. You could have aluminum, plastic and glass. We wanted it to be simple and clean, like the building," said Lindsey Jackson, Circle K member and senior cell and microbiology major.

The committee plans to use table tents, residence hall programs and other media to encourage students to recycle and make sure they know that recycling is an important part of Central Washington University.

According to Rosenberry, recycling has been overlooked in the past at Central, but the committee is trying to fix that. They have put together a recycling report that they plan to send to the president of the university, which will tell her about their concerns and offer ways to improve.

The committee is also focusing on the beautification of campus, with the "Clean Up Campaign," which started Mar. 11. First, they cleaned up the irrigation canal that runs through campus, known to the students as the Ganges. On a Saturday later in March, faculty, staff and students took an entire truckload of trash out of the canal. It prepared the canal to be filled with water as soon as irrigation becomes available.

The committee is working with the Civic Engagement Center to try and host a Campus Wide Clean Up during Earth Week this month.

"This clean up would allow people to volunteer to come out and help improve the quality of their campus," Rosenberry said. "A barbecue would be provided for those that participated. Additionally, we are going to have a rubber duck race when the town canal fills to its maximum level for the year. Students will be able to purchase a rubber duck with a number on it and we will launch the rubber ducks over a bridge."

The prizes for first, second and third place ducks will be gift packs that are environmentally friendly. All money raised will go to purchasing benches that will be placed along the canal. The goal is for students to be able to sit and enjoy the scenery without having to sit on the grass.

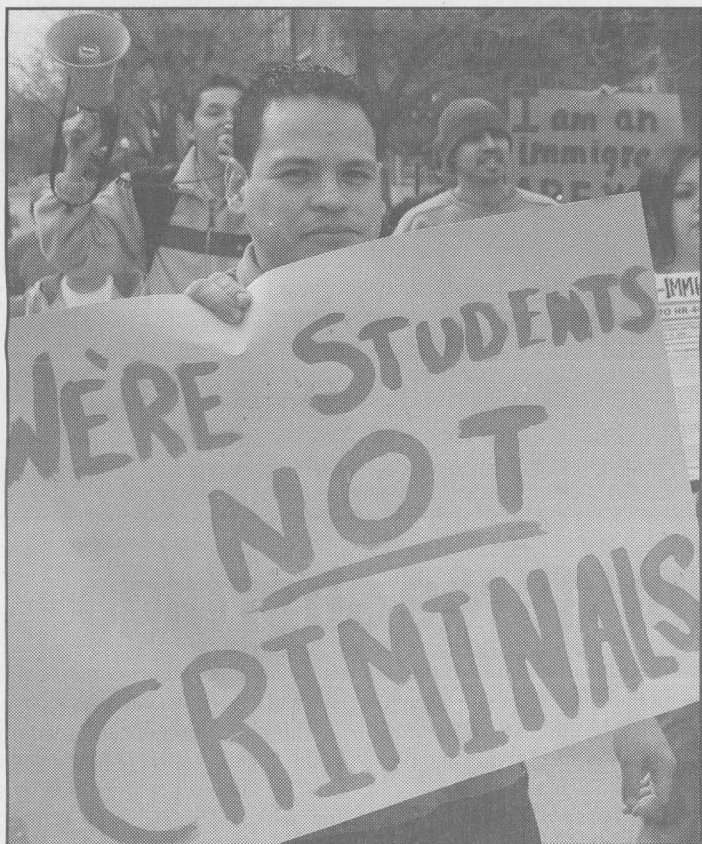
The committee will continue to come up with opportunities for students to improve the campus. They will also be coming up with new ways to increase awareness about recycling on campus.



Stephen Ellis/Observer

The Circle K group's recycling bin, left, won the Recycling Bin Challenge to become the official recycling receptacle of the new SUB, as part of the "Clean up Campaign" throughout campus.

"It is our goal to let students know that they have the power to make a difference on campus just by picking up, or putting away, their trash," Rosenberry said. "Empowering our students will create a stronger sense of community and allow more ownership of the campus by the students."



Stephen Ellis/Observer

Immigration Protest:

Wednesday students and community members staged a protest about immigration legislation. Look for full coverage of the issue in next week's Observer.

NEWS BRIEFS

CAMPUS

Smoke from a generator in the Central Library filled its electrical room and caused an evacuation to that building Wednesday. It also disrupted power to Farrell, Michaelson, Randall and the Psych building. No major injuries were reported, but one person was treated on site for an asthma attack. Central mechanics hoped to diagnose the problem later that day.

Central Transit has added three new stops to its repertoire, bringing the total number to 14. One is near the Pizza Hut on University Way and Main Street. The second is near McDonald's at Canyon Road and South Ruby, and the last is at Super 1 Foods by Ruby and Mountain View.

Swarthout in stable condition after heart attack

by Stephanie Howard
Staff reporter

John Swarthout, associate professor in the political science department, continues to recover since his recent heart attack. Swarthout was moved to Kindred Hospital in Seattle where he is now conscious and alert.

Swarthout is a full time, non tenured professor who teaches middle-eastern politics. He suffered a heart attack on Feb. 23, directly before his first class. His classes were cancelled. The department's other professors were able to cover two of his spring classes.

Swarthout spent two weeks in Yaki-

ma in critical condition.

Swarthout is unable to talk due to breathing and feeding tubes.

"He is aware of what is going on," said Department chair Todd Schafer.

Swarthout is also able to use writing pads to communicate. He recognizes people and is alert.

"He tires easily," said department secretary, Linda Rubio.

There is no timetable for Swarthout's release from Kindred. Upon his release, Swarthout will be moved to a hospital in Portland to be near family.

Cards can be sent to Kindred Hospital at 10560 Ave. NE Seattle, WA 98125, care of John Swarthout.

Summer is Central. Summer Session 2006

SCHEDULE AVAILABLE ON THE WEB!
www.cwu.edu/~summer

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Your future is Central.

CWU is an AA/EEO/Title IX Institution.

CWU Dining Service Special Event

Big League BBQ
Thursday, April 6
Tunstall East & West
4:30 pm to 7:00 pm
Mariners Game

Assorted Appetizers
BBQ Ribs
Buffalo Burgers
Gourmet Hotdogs
Grilled Veggie Sandwich
Garlic Parmesan Fries **Potato Salad**
Baked Beans **7 Layer Salad**
Fresh Fruit Kabobs
Fruit Tart
Churros Crisпитos
Raspberry Lemonade
Root Beer Floats
Cracker Jacks

WIN!
Tickets to a Mariners Game
Cooler on Wheels
Stadium Blanket
And More!

Cash \$12.50 Child Cash \$6.50
Meal Plan \$11.40 Child Meal Plan \$5.00

Open at 3:30 pm
Tunstall East
to Watch Game!

Saving salmon: students plant trees to preserve coho habitat in Yakima river basin

by Karena Shellman
Staff reporter

Help is on the way. Cascade Land Conservancy and the Yakama Nation, part of the Yakima-Klickitat Fisheries Project (YKFP), are hosting a community work party to help restore the critical habitat for Coho salmon.

Lorinda Anderson, director of the Civic Engagement Center and Leadership Development said that dramatic degradation of natural resources is not exclusive to Kittitas County. However, the rise in irrigation of the Yakima River side channel's condition has wildlife organizations asking for help.

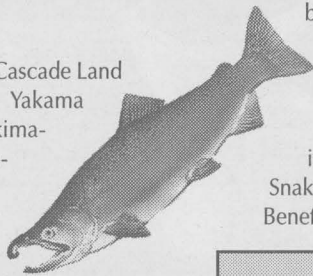
"Each of us are part of this dynamic, interrelated ecosystem called Earth," Anderson said. "The degradation of natural resources, such as water and soil and subsequent habitats can be easily found throughout the world."

Volunteers will participate in tree planting and salmon habitat restoration along the Yakima River from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, April 8. Volunteers will be able to meet and interact with a variety of community members, learn about the needs of local habitat restoration and mend critical habitat for Coho salmon in the Yakima River Basin.

"[Volunteers] will not only learn and practice restoration methods, but they will also have the opportunity to dialog with individuals whose professions center on natural resource management," Anderson said. "It is one of the best ways to make you feel like you have really accomplished something valuable."

According to the Office of Protected Resources Web site, Coho salmon, now

considered endangered, are believed to have migrated hundreds of miles inland to spawn in tributaries in the upper Columbia River in Washington and the Snake River in Idaho. Benefits of side channel rescue



"Our main goal is to restore the side channel and flood plain habitat on the property."

*-Kelly Clark-Larimer,
Habitat biologist*

will result in passage improvements, habitat restoration and spawning restoration.

Habitat biologist and Central Washington University alumna Kelly Clark-Larimer has helped coordinate the event to help restore the 50 acres of high value flood plain habitat, known as the "Holmes Property." She said she is thrilled about the project and believes public awareness and support for

such projects has increased in Kittitas County.

"Our program is fairly complex in structure and function; our main goal is to restore the side channel and flood plain habitat on the property," said Clark-Larimer.

Clark-Larimer, a 2003 graduate with a resource and environmental management degree, is excited to see Central students actively participating in community work and hopes to see many current environmental management students there as well.

"There will be a whole bunch of organizations there. It's great for networking," Clark-Larimer said. "We hope to make it an annual event."

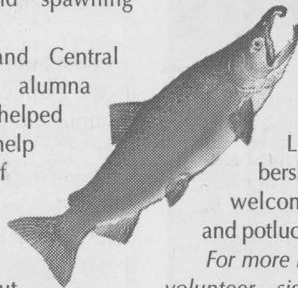
Clark-Larimer said community interest and involvement is strong. Along with Central, other organizations are participating in the event and will serve as key partners.

Although restoration will take several years, organizations are hoping to solicit public involvement along the way. In addition, selected elementary students will visit the respective side channel and participate in a few learning stations and release salmon they have raised in their classrooms.

The restoration project will be located at the old Holmes DD Ranch, 191 Klocke Road, near the John Wayne Trail Bridge in Ellensburg.

Volunteers can earn a free Cascade Land Conservancy membership and all volunteers are welcome to enjoy a fun BBQ and potluck afterwards.

For more information, directions or volunteer sign-up, visit the Civic Engagement Center located in SUB 212.



Music chair's career praised

by Marqise Allen
Staff reporter

Peter Gries' career reached a grand crescendo when he received a phone call in mid-January Gries, department chair for the music department, was taken back to find out that he had been selected to be in the Washington Music Educator Association's (WMEA) Hall of Fame.

"[I wondered] why me? I just sit in an office and do stuff," Gries said.

To be inducted in the WMEA Hall of Fame is no small feat. Currently, there are only 218 members. To become a member of the hall of fame, candidates must be nominated and then chosen by association members. A maximum of 10 members are selected every two years based on exceptional support, inspiration and outstanding contribution to the growth and development of music education in the state of Washington.

"Across the board, our program is the best in the state, and I just happen to represent the department and it's success," Gries said.

Gries has been teaching music for about 45 years, and has been at Central Washington University since 1974. He has been the music department chair for the past six years, and enjoys the responsibilities as much as teaching.

"The best thing about being the

department chair is it gives me the opportunity to create an environment for students and faculty that is fun," Gries said.

This concept is interwoven into his teaching style. His students are able to connect with him easily, and admire his teaching and the work he has done for the program.

"He's amazing," Kimberly Roy, junior music major, said. "It's so nice to have someone who's so helpful."

His love for music is undeniable, as he often shows off his passion for the art to people. Gries plays Mozart on a 1780s

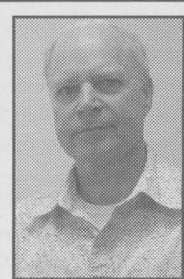
style piano, which he built himself from a kit, to demonstrate the different tone and sound quality it has from a modern piano.

Gries does not only prefer the art form of music, but acting as well. He has performed as key characters in many well-known plays.

"I've been Captain Hook from 'Peter Pan' and the Merchant in 'The Merchant of Venice,'" Gries said.

Gries has always enjoyed music, and has passed on his zeal for music to his students and the people he meets through his teaching.

"[The best part] is getting someone to understand something they didn't before," Gries said. "On any level: as a freshman learning a major minor scale to a graduate student on analytical theories and seeing the lights go on."



Peter Gries
music
department
chair

World Health Day addresses global workforce shortage

by Sean Mcpherson
Staff reporter

Friday, April 7 marks the 56 annual World Health Day. It was set up by the World Health Organization (WHO) to bring attention to health problems that affect people around the world.

This year, the theme for World Health Day is "Working Together for Health." An article on the official World Health Day Web site said that the

theme relates to work force shortages in the field of health care.

Robert Trumpy, senior director for Student Health, Counseling and Wellness Services, said that the Health and Counseling Center did celebrate World Health Day a few years ago, when immunization was the topic of that year. Trumpy said having the Health and Wellness Center celebrate World Health Day is usually dependent on the topic for the year.

Arthur DePalma, associate director of Health and Counseling Center, said that World Health Day tends to be more focused on Third World health care than domestic problems.

"Health care in this country has a lot to be desired," DePalma said.

DePalma said that there is a nursing shortage in the United States, which drains nurses from other countries, including those in Africa and Europe.

WHO, in a advocacy toolkit that is

accessible at their official Web site, is calling for multiple steps to be taken to improve the health care workforce, including improved education and protection of health workers.

Previous World Health Day themes have been on issues such as road safety, polio, and emerging infectious diseases.

Another health-related event coming up is the Civic Engagement Center's Campaign Against Cancer, a fund raiser for cancer research. Part of the cam-

paign includes giving out purple wristbands to anyone who donates money.

The campaign concludes with the "Walk of Hope" which is scheduled for May 20. The walk will include music and raffles, but will also feature a memorial tribute.

"We want it to be really fun and light-hearted," said Stephanie Oberlander, freshman cultural anthropology major. "But we still want people to know why they're there."

*Be Healthy. Be Informed.
Take Care of yourself.*

- Birth Control
- Pregnancy Testing
- STI Testing and Treatment
- Emergency Contraception

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Ellensburg
509.925.7113
1.800.230.PLAN

 **Planned Parenthood**
of Central Washington

Look forward to updates regarding
University Dining and the Faculty Code.

HopeSource

HopeSource is still taking appointments for households that have not yet applied for their Energy Assistance Program to help pay household heating costs. The program can help pay for various sources of heat including electric, gas, oil, wood, propane, and pellets. Kittitas County residents are encouraged to apply. Eligibility is determined upon income and program guidelines. All types of household are eligible. Please call HopeSource at 962-0427 for more information.

City

News from around the Ellensburg community

Comprehensive plan prompts major growth

by Taishi Kanamaru
Staff reporter

The city of Ellensburg's comprehensive plan anticipates community changes and strives to manage those changes in a deliberate manner, reflecting the desires and wishes of Ellensburg's residents.

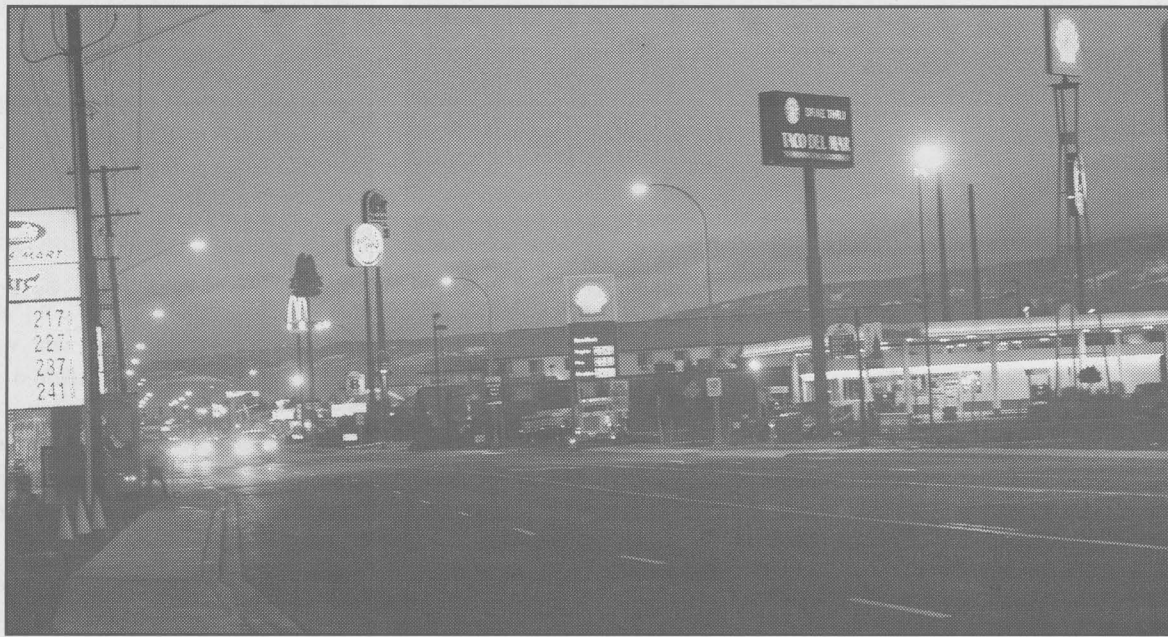
The plan will shape the city's zoning and subdivision regulations, capital improvement programming and budgeting, and other legal and regulatory actions necessary to manage Ellensburg's physical, social, and environmental character.

The plan contains several elements that are required by the Washington State Growth Management Act.

This includes land use, transportation, housing, economic development, and essential public facilities.

The description of transportation, for example, states it will "encourage efficient multi-modal transportation systems that are based on regional priorities and coordinated with the county."

More specifically, the issue of expanding commercial activity in the form of regional retail is one of the



Patrick Lewis/Observer

One major concern of community members with the comprehensive plan is the competition local businesses will face if "Big Box" companies move into Ellensburg. If there is more growth on the outer edges of the city, near freeway exits, people will be more likely to go to those businesses than venture deeper into the city.

more controversial aspects of the plan.

While most residents believe there are needs for commercial growth in

town so that they do not have to go far to shop, the city is carefully considering areas for regional retail development,

according to their Web site.

Potential areas include the West Interchange, Umptanum Area, South

Interchange, and Central Business District.

However, this plan is not only about economic growth, but also about respect for Ellensburg's tradition.

The goal is historic preservation, which emphasizes the importance the community places on historic resources and the need to preserve and restore those resources as a fundamental part of maintaining the community's identity.

Therefore, it seems there will be more people and stores, but with the preserved historic buildings remaining for the future.

Tomonari Ukawa, senior business administration major, feels there needs to be some new businesses on the north side of campus as he lives in University Place Apartments, located on eighth Avenue.

"All of the major grocery stores are only on the south part Ellensburg, and it is hard for me go there when I'm busy," said Ukawa. "I'd like to see some development around my house in the future."

see PLAN, page 6 ▶

Turbine farm location proves major concern

by Kyle McCormick
Staff reporter

Citizens of Kittitas County are divided on whether or not they are in favor of the proposed 64 wind harnessing turbines that will be placed on a 6,000 acre area by Highway 97 and Bettas Road.

"We need to fight for the economic security in our community," said Terry Petrie, Ellensburg resident.

People like Skip Littlefield, however, like the project but were against something else.

"I'm in favor of the project, but the location should be changed," said Littlefield.

Others against the project cited reasons such as it disturbs the natural view of the county and it affects property values.

In addition to a favorable public opinion, the proposed project must also adopt a sub-area plan for the wind farm, receive a zoning classification that would label the 6,000 acre area the "Wind Farm Resource Overlay Zoning District," get a development permit, and adopt a development agreement. The agreement will take approximately a year to build and will be effective for roughly 20 years or more.

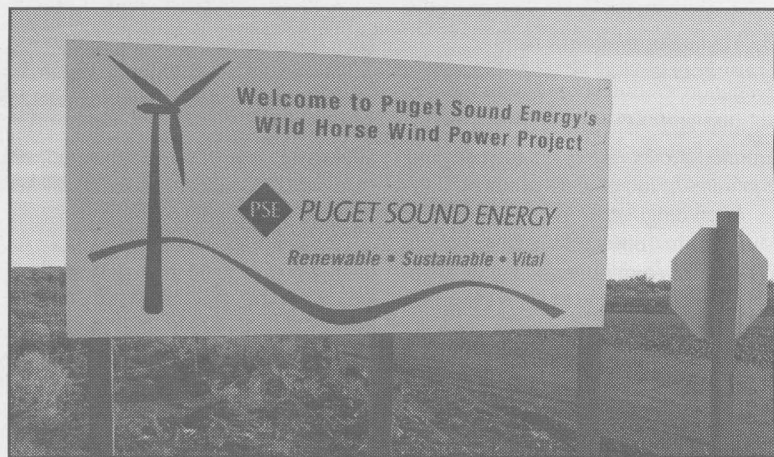
The benefits received from the project include creating a \$1.8 million tax revenue, improved roads along the site area (the project will have a separate road fund), and lower electricity costs. However, the proposed site could affect tourism, which is a substantial part of Kittitas County's economy. It will also create a negative "shadow flickering" effect, meaning the sun will shine through the spinning turbine blades and

give random patches of darkness around the early evening.

Finally, property values and real estate businesses are the most affected, because it is hard to sell land near the 64 turbines. This could, in turn, affect the real estate and current homeowners in that area.

The Houston-based company Horizon, which is responsible for this project, has been operating and developing projects in more than a dozen states. In the past two years, Horizon has built or announced the construction of more than 800 megawatts of wind power, with the Kittitas County project being the latest one.

The planning commission of Kittitas County unanimously denied the project on Feb. 13, 2006, but agreed to hold an open record hearing on Mar. 29 and 30 after much debate.



Stephen Ellis/Observer

With the construction of the new wind farms, the county is expecting to receive \$1.8 million in tax revenue and lower energy costs.

If the wind power project is approved by the public, it could open the floodgate of possibilities.

Comprehensive plan gets criticism

by Joshua Gaertner and
Carly Petersen
Staff reporters

Ellensburg's City Council has a big decision to make and Citizens Against Sprawl (CAS) is trying to encourage a different plan.

Washington state law requires that all counties outline a comprehensive growth and development plan to combat future urban growth, and are required to reassess the plan every 10 years.

It has been 10 years since the plan has come under scrutiny. This scrutiny pertains to "big box" retailers and zoning areas.

CAS is a small, grassroots group based in Ellensburg, and is trying to persuade Ellensburg's City Council to keep "big box" retailers like Wal-Mart and

large strip malls from setting up shop near the west interchange by the Wild Goose Casino.

"We're not against Wal-Mart, in particular, but we want to keep these large retailers in the downtown area to keep people in town," said Barbara Newman, CAS spokeswoman.

CAS has a petition with more than 1,200 signatures to save downtown Ellensburg.

According to Newman, members of CAS are currently attending City Council meetings and have written several letters to the editor of Ellensburg's local newspaper, The Daily Record.

"There is a lot of land around Fred Meyer on Third Avenue, which seems

see CAS, page 6 ▶

Thank you Central Students
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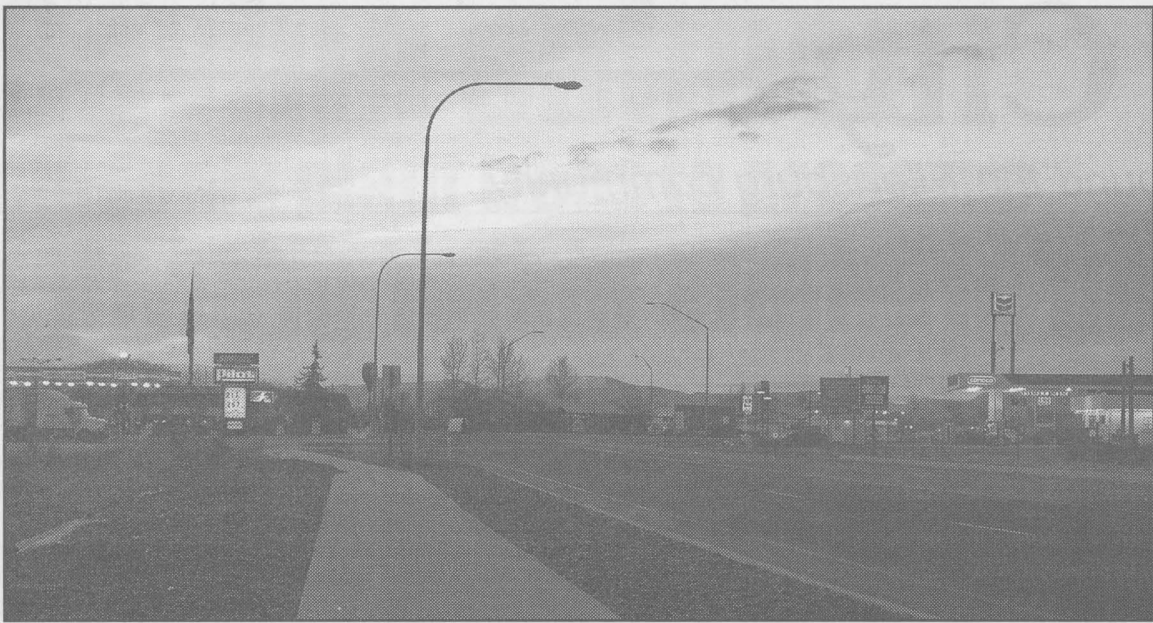
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Patrick Lewis/Observer

Ellensburg's comprehensive plan addresses areas of growth including "Big Box" companies, as well as smaller issues including transportation and housing. Some people are concerned that companies like Wal Mart and Target would hurt local smaller businesses.

PLAN: Community reflects on how plan will affect local businesses

► *continued from 5*

While some students want more businesses in this town, there are some concerns for current local business owners.

Tom Hamberg, owner of Showplace Antique Mall, agrees with the idea of bringing more businesses downtown,

but worries that big-box stores, such as Wal-Mart and Target might affect his business.

"Wal-Mart is known to close every small town business," Hamberg said.

Senior history and anthropology major, Sadie Thayer sees the two conflicting opinions as a student, although she also admits Ellensburg needs some

shopping stores, such as clothing.

"I can see the town's demand of wanting to stay small," said Thayer. "I also can see that whatever is brought in shouldn't compete with local businesses or drive them out of business."

John Moser, owner of Moser's Mens Wear, sees the importance of bringing more people to Ellensburg.

"I think they need to bring more industries," Moser said. "Without industry, business won't survive."

Although Moser runs his business downtown, he does not mind big-box stores coming to Ellensburg.

Ellensburg museum tells of rich history of town that was almost state capital

by Kayla Roumeliotis
Staff reporter

The city of Ellensburg has been around for over one hundred years and continues to increase its growth.

According to the Ellensburg Museum, in 1866 settler William (Bud) Wilson, a frontier man living with Kittitas Indians, came to Ellensburg and built the first log cabin in 1868, which is now located behind the liquor store.

Fredrick Ludi and John Goller, prospectors, built a cabin in the winter of 1867. Goller moved, but Ludi stayed becoming the first permanent resident to live in Ellensburg.

In 1868 the Tillman Moser family, originally from Seattle, was the first family to reside in Ellensburg. Cowboys A.J. Splawn and Ben Burch opened "Robbers Roost", in 1870.

In 1873, John Shoudy started postal service and five years later named the town, "Ellensburg" after his wife Mary

Ellen (the "Ellen" of Ellensburg).

Businesses in Ellensburg began to grow rapidly between the years of 1878 and 1883. According to City Hall, Ellensburg was first incorporated on Nov. 26, 1883 under the Territorial Act effective Jan. 1, 1884.

The first train to reach Ellensburg on the Northern Pacific Railroad did so on Mar. 31, 1886. The city's water system, sewer, electric plant, and telephone services were installed in 1889. According to City Hall, when Washington became a state in 1889, Ellensburg could have become the capital if a fire had not destroyed most of the city on July 4, 1889.

In 1894, the post office officially changed the spelling from Ellensburgh to Ellensburg.

In 1889, Ellensburg became the home of Washington State Normal School, now Central Washington University, which opened in 1891. The City of Ellensburg continues to grow

rapidly.

Homeowner and Central student, Alicia Casad, has seen the growth over the past years while attending Central.

"Every year, Ellensburg brings in approximately 1,000 new residents and not all are students at Central; that's amazing!" said Casad, senior nutrition major.

Unprecedented population growth within both Ellensburg and areas of Lower Kittitas County has occurred over the past decade, according to the City Hall Town Talk local newspaper.

As new homes are being built in the north and northeastern areas of Ellensburg, the population is rapidly increasing.

In 1885, 600 residents resided in town, and as of 2004, the population has increased to 16,305 people, according to the Ellensburg museum.

"Ellensburg is no small town anymore, it is a community full of life," said Jennifer Jarnagin, undeclared senior.

POLICE BRIEFS

All calls were reported between 3/31-4/2

■ A report of a light blue Chevy pickup was parked with a dog in the bed and had been abandoned for two days.

■ There were reported pot-bellied pigs in the roadway on Vantage Highway.

■ A call reported there appeared to be an eight year old male driving a car on I-90 eastbound.

■ Caller reported daughter had stolen checks and credit cards and used them at the Wild Goose Casino.

■ A call was made to the King County Sheriff by Ellensburg Police to inform them a woman, who was abducted in Auburn, was taken to Kittitas County and assaulted with a baseball bat.

■ There was a two vehicle accident with two injuries, one of the victims was unconscious with shallow breathing, and a male trapped in his vehicle in Cle Elum.

■ There was a reported vehicle prowling at Hebel Hall where a pair of skis was taken off a roof rack.

■ A woman called to report her two kids had run away from Morgan Middle School.

■ A four year old female was attacked by a dog and had serious bleeding from the head. The dog was still in the front yard.

■ An eighteen-year-old male was reported to have had an alcohol overdose in Muzzall.

■ A 20-year-old male on 18th Avenue had been drinking and was threatening to assault anyone who went outside.

■ A purse was reported stolen from the Oakrail.

■ A transformer blew the top of a power pole off and caught it on fire on Dennis Street.

NEWS BRIEF

Student trial reset for next month

Jonathan Chandler, a former Central Washington University student, was scheduled to go to trial on March 28 at Kittitas County Superior Court as reported in the Feb. 9 issue. After an agreed continuance it has been reset for May 23. There is a status hearing set for May 18. Chandler was arrested and charged last November with second degree rape.

Welcome to the City section!

This quarter The Observer is trying something new. News will now be split into two sections, to bring readers more indepth stories from the campus and community. If you have story ideas or suggestions please contact Megan Hansen, City editor at observer@cwu.edu

CAS: Group urges council to keep "big" businesses close

► *continued from 5*

like a reasonable area to build a mall or something," said Sara Mathews, an undeclared freshman.

That is one of the alternatives considered by CAS. Because of the lack of space it creates an issue of where to build a new retail store.

"We propose some of the area around Fred Meyer," Newman said.

Another way to combat limited space is to build two-story buildings and shared parking lots.

Beverly Heckart, a member of CAS who is on the steering and research committee suggests retailers to build up not build out.

CAS proposed that opening up space around downtown Ellensburg will allow new retail in town.

"If a strip mall or a big box retailer is built

near the west interchange it would attract consumers away from the downtown area and detract from the already quality shopping in downtown," Newman said.

Some believe that Ellensburg needs a strip mall and/or a Wal-mart.

"I wouldn't mind another option," said Shelly McCuiston, an undeclared freshman.

"We're not trying to limit people's choices, we believe that choices are good," Newman said.

"We get the reputation for being against growth and we're not; we know that growth is inevitable," Newman said.

"With the location of Ellensburg, growth is inevitable," said Dr. Bob Carbaugh, professor of economics at Central Washington University, referring to Ellensburg being located on the highways that connect major cities such as Seattle, Spokane, and Yakima.

Heckart also believes that growth in Ellensburg is not a bad thing, as long as it does

not draw away from the downtown area.

There would be a lot of driving for consumers if a retailer built near the west interchange.

"We need to maintain the centrality of the shopping experience, otherwise it begins to waste time," said Heckart, of the driving that would be required to shop at two sites at the interchanges.

CAS wants to limit construction of a retail store within the city limits.

This way, consumers would still shop in the downtown area seeing and exploring the choices, instead of being lured away, which might help the customer forget what the downtown area has to offer.

"We want to harmonize the footprint of the store with the rest of the town," Heckart said.

For more information go to <http://studio-cascade.typepad.com/ellensburg/>

OBSERVER OPINION



Rachel Guillermo
Editor-in-Chief

Ellensburg is the type of town I like to call a college town. Where the population, depending on the time of year, increases to about double its size. If you couldn't guess, the reason for that is because of the university. For about nine months out of the year, Central Washington University students take over this otherwise quiet rodeo town.

Over the years as the number of students increase, so has the number of residents in Ellensburg. As a result more houses are being built, more cars are being driven on the streets and more "Big Box" companies are in

demand. Depending who you ask, this increase is good for the town. I think it sucks. I like my small college town the way it is. It's one of the main reasons why I chose to come to Central. It's true that graduating from a bigger well-known university looks better on a resume. But that doesn't say anything about the quality of that education. Who wants to sit through a lecture where you are just seen as one of 300 faces? Or being in a class full of people who are supposedly in the same major but you don't recognize a single face? I like walking in on the first day of class and shooting the breeze with the entire room. I also like knowing that if I miss a day, I'll still know what's going on.

Understandably more housing is needed with the increase in population. So the only choice is to expand the limits of town where there were once only two or maybe three houses in a one-mile area. Residents who are

used to seeing their neighbor's cows grazing in the fields now find that they are surrounded by a cluster of developments. I remember my freshman year when my friends and I would take drives in the spring out on the roads

is what starts the day.

The same can be said about the downtown area. The great thing about shopping in small towns is the unique flavor of products and services they offer that you wouldn't normally get shopping in a mall.

One of my favorite things to do on a Saturday afternoon is to walk around downtown shopping in the local shops. I loved the fact that I could walk into Button's Jewelers, buy a pack of recipe cards and be rung up

using a cash register from the 1900s. That's something you won't find at Fred Meyer.

But the fact remains; the university has a big influence over the changes Ellensburg has gone through. As a student I feel these changes are necessary to fill the demands of the growing stu-

dent body. But I also feel there should be a balance between Ellensburg and the university.

During the school year Central students are working and shopping at local businesses keeping them alive. Business owners and residents who work in town should embrace the fact that students are creating jobs for them. Without students there would be no need for the variety of shops and restaurants downtown. Without more housing needed to be built, local contractors and construction workers would have to find jobs somewhere else.

For as long as I've been at Central, there has been a rift between local residents and the university. The community and the university should work together to keep the small town feel that is Ellensburg but also to fulfill the demands of Central students. It's time we close that rift for the sake of Ellensburg and Central.

OBSERVANCE

Small college towns, it's a good thing

just north of campus. There was barely anything out there those days, just a two-lane highway and a few houses separated by open fields. Now those open fields are full of bulldozers and housing complexes for sale. Instead of waking up to the sounds of birds, the annoying sounds of busy construction

Welcome to your new SUB/REC...April Fools!

I'm feeling some déjà vu coming on strong. With the announcement of the new Student Union Building opening changing from April 3 to April 24, suddenly I'm back in the 2003-2004 school year. At the time I was living in Green Hall. Construction on the Depot Deli began prior to fall quarter that year and as a resident, I was promised free meals for the entire spring quarter in order to compensate for having to live in the confines of a construction site.

The year wasn't all that bad, unless I wanted to sleep in past 8 a.m. (when the drilling and clanging began) or if I wanted to actually do anything in my room with the windows open (without catching the wandering eyes of the construction workers in my direction). I smiled and put up with it, because I knew I'd have a full quarter of free food in my belly at the end of the year to

reward my "efforts" (stay with me here, people).

Spring quarter rolled around and I came to find that the newly-remodeled Depot Deli wouldn't be opening until June 1 of that year. Instead of a full quarter of free meals, I got one measly week of freebies. And not only that, when I went in for my first meal, all of the workers looked at me like I was insane. No one had bothered to tell them that Green Hall residents were supposed to be able to eat there for free.

That was the last year I lived on campus. I had put up with a year of noisy, uncomfortable conditions for a few sandwiches that left a really bad



Jenn Turner
Copy Desk Chief

"on campus living" taste in my mouth. So you can understand my annoyance at seeing the full \$64 posted to my account this week for a service that I won't be able to utilize for the first 28 days of the quarter.

The Observer has been covering the construction of the new SUB/REC pretty closely, so I'm fairly familiar with the project. My qualm is not with the opening date being changed. I understand that construction is a tedious and drawn-out process that often encounters unexpected delays (look at the Wendy's restaurant in town). What really irks me is the fact that the language on the SUB/REC Web site states

that construction is a tedious and drawn-out process that often encounters unexpected delays (look at the Wendy's restaurant in town). What really irks me is the fact that the language on the SUB/REC Web site states

"this building will be [paid for] through a self-imposed student fee, which only goes into effect after the facility is open."

That's weird, because I just checked my financial account status and the university has already posted the full charge of \$64, even though the facility isn't currently open. If pro-rated, like the REC center's fees are in the summer (from \$95 to \$75), the actual cost of the fee for this spring quarter would be approximately \$37. That's almost half of the current fee which the university is charging each student on this campus for a facility that none of us are using.

Think that \$27 extra dollars doesn't mean much? Multiply that by the number of students and you get around \$216,000. Now I don't claim to be a mathematician or have any idea about budgeting large projects, but that

seems like a lot of money to be usurped from students in a blatantly dishonest way.

Other than seeing the posters on campus, banners on University Way and \$64 fee on our student accounts, students are left without a credible guarantee that the SUB/REC will even open by April 24.

The university encourages ideas like integrity and honesty (particularly in terms of academics), but what they should strive to emphasize, in my opinion, is accountability. Now it is rumored that the SUB/REC won't even be completely open on the 24. I've heard that the food court won't be finished until finals week.

Every day before April 24 will quickly add up to \$216,000 of our money that is getting burned up by something which we neither have access to nor a method to dispute.

NEWS

- Friday, 5 p.m. - Entertainment, meetings, calendar events.
- Monday, 3 p.m. - Weekend sports information.
- Monday, 5 p.m. - Letters to the editor.

DEADLINES

The Observer office, located in Bouillon 222, is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Submissions can be brought to the office, e-mailed to Observer@cwu.edu, mailed to Observer at Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926 or faxed to (509) 963-1027.

ADVERTISING

- Thursday, 5 p.m. - Display ads.
- Monday, 5 p.m. - Classified ads.

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This week in Scene

Thorp:

Visit the Fruit and Antique-Mall on I-90.

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5 mins with:

Meet the man on the unicycle and what turns his wheel.

PAGE 10

Concert:

Faculty members play for their students and community members.

PAGE 10

Art Walk:

First Friday Art Walk features Sarah Thompson.

PAGE 11

Dance:

Flowmotion is back in Ellensburg for the First Friday Dance.

PAGE 11



Photos by Stephen Ellis/Observer

This is an example of some of the 10,000 bottle caps around the yard.

Scene



This ever-changing house and its owners have drawn the attention of various media outlets because of its originality, friendly appearance and color.

Yard reflects art in Ellensburg

by Caitlin Kuhlmann
Staff reporter

On the corner of First and Pearl in downtown Ellensburg lies an ever changing, ever growing piece of art that has attracted national attention. Its owners and designers are two Central Washington University alumni who also happen to live inside the incredible masterpiece. The art piece is called Dick and Jane's Spot, which is a house Dick Elliott and Jane Orleman have lived in and worked on since 1978.

"[We wanted] to create something you can share with people in a non-traditional way," Dick said.

Dick and Jane started the art project in 1978 when they bought the house and began renovating it. The house, built in 1890, soon became a

ago they completed a second studio in the house.

"It took a couple of years to realize we were doing this," Dick said of how he and Jane started the collection of yard art. The interior art was added to make the house livable, while the outside art was a fun project.

"We're very fortunate to have it," said William Folkestad, chair of the art department. "[It] is an example of public art outside the confines of a gallery or museum."

About 40 percent of the outside art was created by Dick and Jane while the remaining pieces are contributions from friends and Central graduates.

"It's a major collection of over 35 different artists' work," Dick said.

The house includes artwork made from mediums that vary from industrial grade reflectors to oil paints. However, Dick said the yard is very free form with ranging mediums, colors and concepts.

"I think it's unique," Kathryn Moran, senior family studies major, said of the house. "I saw it [for the first time] at

Dick and Jane's Spot in the Media:

- roadsideamerica.com
- Home & Garden Network
- KING TV
- KAPP 35, ABC News
- KIRO TV
- CNN National TV People Interest News
- Northwest Magazine
- Seattle Times
- Seattle Post Intelligencer
- School Arts (Vol. 95#9)
- Lonely Planet: Pacific Northwest (2002)
- Creative Scarecrows (book)

night and the house was all lit up."

Dick and Jane both graduated from Central in 1971 with majors in art. Although they left Ellensburg after graduating, they returned about a year later because they felt it was an accepting community in a good geographical location to continue their dream of creating art. Dick became a distinguished Central alumnus in 2000.

Dick and Jane have been supportive of the university for many years by employing students and graduates as art assistants. Their current employee is Joel Brenden, who graduated from Central in 2004 and will be leaving in August to get his master's degree at the University of Buffalo, in New York. Brenden has been working for Dick and Jane for three and a half years.

"It's a place that nurtures creativity," Brenden said. "They [Dick and Jane]

have always been supportive of the art I've been working on."

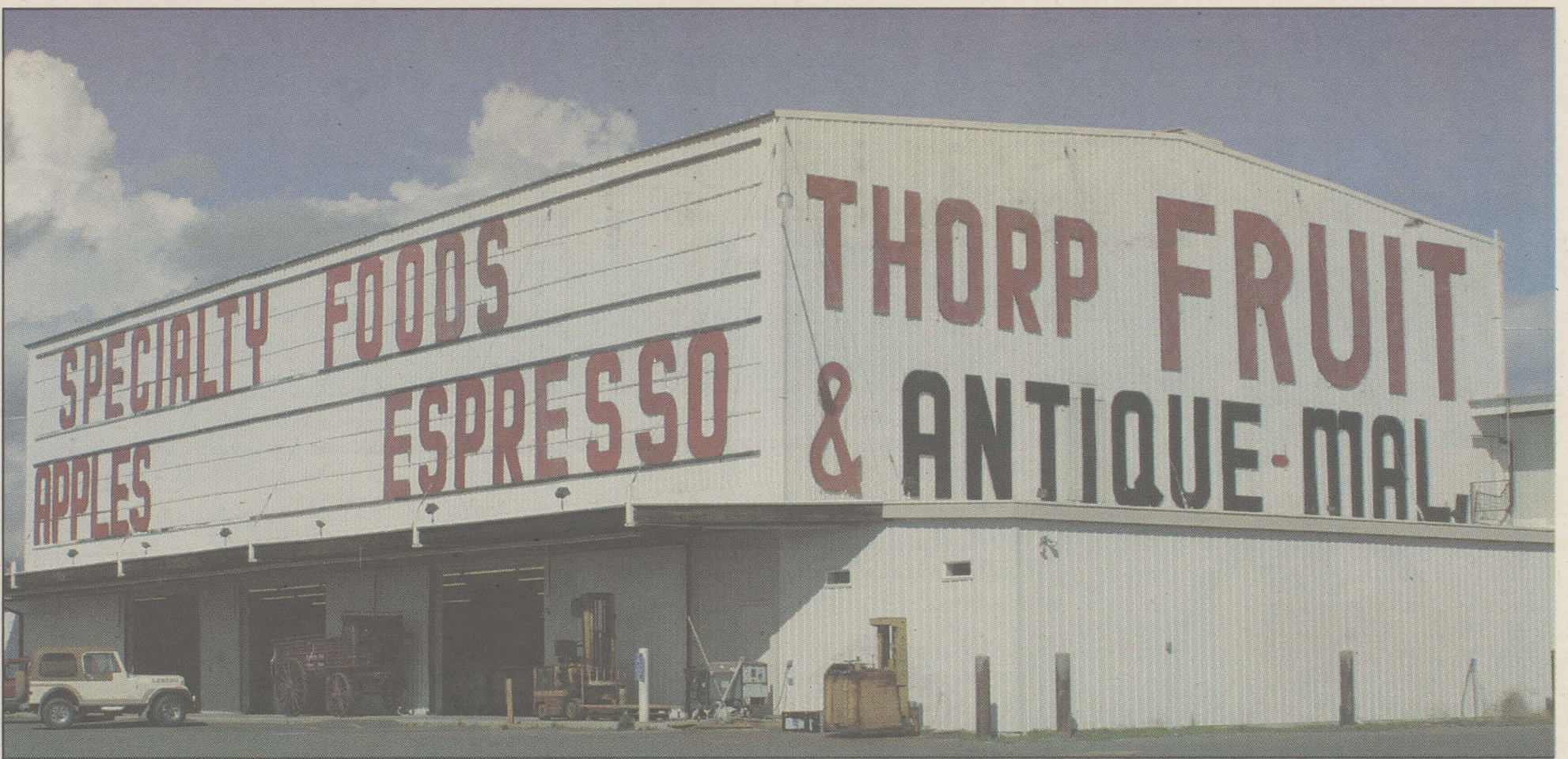
Brenden works full time helping Dick with commercial art commissions and creating new projects for the yard. Brenden said he produces about one new major art piece per year for the yard.

"There's a lot of discipline in [the yard]," Brenden said. "It's not careless."

Jane's work will be showcased in a painting exhibit at Central in fall 2007 at the Sarah Spurgeon Gallery. Aside from painting, she also has written a book that features her own illustrations. She said the paintings in the book were completed first and the story was created to bring them together.

see ART HOUSE, page 10 ►

Dick and Jane's Spot is dedicated to the philosophy of "one hearty laugh is worth ten trips to the doctor."
~according to Dick and Jane's Spot



Travelers on I-90 are given the opportunity to stop and stretch their legs at this family-owned landmark.

Photos by Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Thorp *Fruit stand provides produce, nuts and antiques for travelers*

by Andrea Rust
Staff reporter

You have driven past it. It is huge, white and has big red letters you can read from a mile away, even while you are going 70 miles per hour down I-90. It is the Thorp Fruit and Antique Mall, or as Central Washington University students more commonly refer to it, the Thorp Fruit Stand. However, it is what is inside this Washington landmark that really counts.

The company is family owned and run after being started by Myrl and Ina Rowley in 1944.

"My folks started the company in Yakima," said Bill Rowley, second-generation owner and manager. "In the 60s they had nine places, but opted to change and have one large one. The location is great, my dad was a genius, and we get a lot of repeat business from our location. He was a good business man."

In 1968 the company moved to Thorp, and the current building was rebuilt 18 years ago after a fire. Today, the

Fruit and Antique Mall boasts everything from salt water taffy to specialty gourmet foods.

"We try to have the best quality with competitive prices," said Rowley. "We sell the best selection of gourmet foods in the Northwest."

If you can think it up, the mall probably has it. They sell jams, jellies, preserves, marinades, meat rubs, salsas, salad dressing, wines, fresh fruit, dried fruit, bread dips, mustards, teas, soups, sugar free products, desserts, espresso, antiques and other specialty items.

"It's endless, we have hundreds and hundreds of specialty foods," said Rowley. "If you can't find it somewhere else, you can find it here. We sell seasonal, local and foods from other parts of the world."

The part of the mall which is strictly antiques is on the second and third floors. There are more than 40 dealers who bring antiques and collectibles in from all over the country. It is the one part of the store that will keep visitors busy browsing for hours.

"There is a lot of vintage stuff that is

good for student apartments," said Lindsay Durant, junior sociology major. "There is new stuff that is always changing."

The Rowley family is focused on keeping the business a friendly place that puts their customers first.

"We have hired a lot of Central students, and we hire selectively," said Rowley. "It's a great place for college students to work, and it's a fun place to work and shop."

Summer is the busiest season, with fresh fruit being brought in by the truckload every day.

"Summers are fun because it is always a fast, busy pace," said Durant. "It's a great place with a family atmosphere."

The Thorp Fruit and Antique Mall is open year round. Currently, the hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week, and in the summer they will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week.

For more information, visit their Web site at www.thorpfuit.com, call 964-2474, or stop by exit 101, off I-90.



Above: Owners Bill and Mary Rowley and their dog Mattie pose in front of their favorite antique piece in the store. Left: Charlotte Bouta and her daughter Emily are first-timers to the fruit stand and antique-mall. They stopped to get a "pear for the road" on their drive home to Federal Way.



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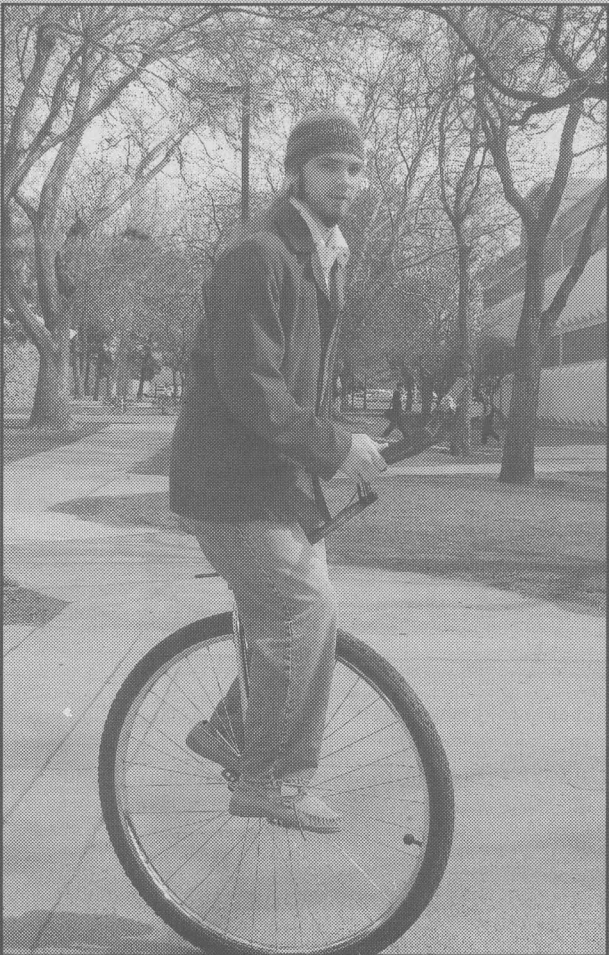
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Rhea Quintanilla/Observer

5 minutes with...Jack Hughes

by Katie Baker
Staff reporter

You have seen him zoom past you on your way to class. You stare as he zooms by on one wheel. The Unicycle Man, Jack Hughes, freshman guitar performance, explains the ins and outs of riding on a unicycle.

Q: How long have you been riding?

A: I have been riding for 10 years, solid.

Q: Have you ever fallen off your unicycle?

A: Yes, every now and then when I ride off jumps. I broke my ankle seven years ago.

Q: Do you ride to all your classes?

A: Yes, almost all my classes are in the music building. I'm thinking about majoring in music composition, but my instrument is guitar.

Q: Who taught you how to ride?

A: I actually taught myself. I decided that I wanted to ride a unicycle, so my dad and I built my first one and I would ride up and down our hallway, so I could hold onto the wall.

Q: Where would one go to buy a unicycle?

A: Unicycle.com and unicycle.ca are two of my favorite web

sites to buy them at. I have seen some on ebay, so people could try there as well.

Q: Why do you ride a unicycle?

A: I started riding because I was the only one that I knew. It's the ultimate party trick! I started competing. It was a lot of fun and I get to travel all over the world. I've been to Japan, Canada and Germany. It started out as a fun thing to do, but now it's serious.

Q: Did you ever consider joining the circus as a child?

A: People would always ask me if I wanted to join the circus. I did learn to juggle for different competitions, but no, I never wanted to be in the circus. I like competing because I get paid to do it. Clowns are also scary.

Q: Do you know any unicyclists?

A: Yes, I have met a ton of people from different competitions. I know people from all over, from Japan, China, Belgium and Puerto Rico. The Puerto Rico team is great.

Q: Have you started a trend with your friends about riding on a unicycle?

A: I have only had one friend who wanted to try it, until he fell, and then he stopped. They have these unicycle films and they are really well made. You can order them from unicycle.com.

ART HOUSE: Local house gains national recognition.

◀ continued from 8

Dick has artwork in 24 schools, as well as numerous pieces in public establishments, including the Sea-Tac Airport and the Yakima SunDome.

Dick's artwork is characterized by industrial grade reflectors that are arranged in colorful, elaborate designs. Dick was inspired to use reflectors artistically in the early 1980s when the colorful beacons caught his attention while driving county highways at night. He said he was drawn to the brilliant intensity of the reflectors, so he began experimenting with them artistically.

"It was fun because it was a light reactive [medium]," said Dick.

Dick buys the reflectors in large quantities from a factory. His pieces are usually composed of two reflector sizes in about five different colors, although he said he uses other specifications for certain projects.

"We've met some wonderful people here," Jane said of the tourists, students, and local residents they come into contact with.

After 27 years in the house, Dick and Jane said they almost always get positive feedback from the community, and appreciate the fact that most



Justin Mumm/Observer

Dick and Jane, owners of the house, enjoy their garden of creativity.

onlookers enjoy the artwork from the sidewalk. The two have only received one negative phone call in the time that they have been living in the house.

"It's meant to be seen from the outside," said Dick.

Jane said her inspiration for the yard has been to encourage kids who pass by to become artists themselves. Jane was not aware that being a professional

artist was even an option growing up and she wants to help kids realize their potential and artistic opportunities.

"It'll never get finished, we're always changing things," Jane said of the house.

For more information about Dick Elliot, Jane Orleman and their house, visit their Web site at www.reflectorart.com.

Music faculty embrace the green

by Korben Cook
Staff reporter

The Second Sunday Faculty Concert series has been a young tradition for the music department for two years, and continues this quarter with the theme "Green."

The Second Sunday Faculty concert series is, as the name suggests, held on the second Sunday of each month. Faculty members, and occasionally graduate students, perform musical pieces according to the theme chosen for that month. The theme chosen for April is "Green."

"Green" can be interpreted through music in a variety of ways, said Diane Reich, professor of voice and the coordinator of this month's concert. Different instruments can represent colors, the songs can be titled with the color green, or the performers can be dressed in green. There is no limit to the ideas performers can have related to this theme, Reich said.

Some of the pieces that professor of ethnomusicology Maria Roditeleva-Wibe will be singing with Reich are entitled "Spring Waters" and "Soldier's Wife". How does that deal with green? Reich said "Spring Waters" deals with the green spring weather and "Soldier's Wife" relates through the army-green uniforms.

Other performers include professor of piano, John Pickett, associate chair of the music department and professor of horn, Jeffrey Snedeker, professor of

voice, Mia Spencer and the renowned Kairos String Quartet.

The Second Sunday Faculty Concert began with the opening of the new music building.

The March concert was cancelled due a lack of performers and the production for this concert has been no walk in the park either.

Reich said much of the faculty was not in the country or did not stay in Ellensburg during Spring Break so it was difficult to coordinate who could play. Even last weekend many professors were still selecting what they would play.

Students' perception of their professors is a major influence on faculty member's choice to perform in the concert series.

"I think [students] enjoy it because they see their professors in a different light," Reich said.

Senior performance major Nathan Walyer said that it is a great series and creates ambition when seeing music mentors performing.

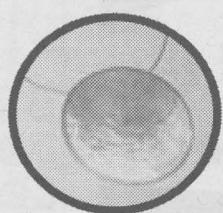
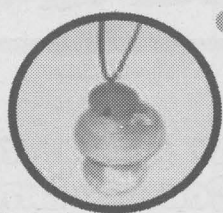
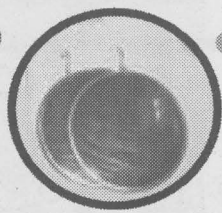
Mainly students attend the concerts, but individuals from the community also appear and are welcomed.

"There is something for everyone," Reich said.

Media Technical Supervisor Steve Reich said that each concert is always fun and great for entire families.

The concert will be held at 4 p.m. on April 9 in the new music building concert hall, room 174. It is free and open to the public.

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April

6

★ 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.,
Tunstall East
and West Big
League BBQ

1

★ 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., at
participating
Downtown
Ellensburg venues, First
Friday Artwalk

★ 8:30 p.m., Moose
Lodge First Friday
Dance featuring
Flowmotion

8

★ Noon,
Men's
Rugby
Playoffs,
home field
advantage

★ 5 p.m., Kittitas County
Fairgrounds, Home Arts
Building 28th Annual
Chamber-Rotary Auction

9

★ 4 p.m.,
Music
Building
Concert Hall Second
Sunday Faculty Concert
Series

10

★ 3:30
p.m., SUB
Yakama room,
Kathleen Aiken
discusses
women and labor

11

★ 4 p.m.,
International
Center,
South America
study abroad
informational session

★ 6:30 p.m., SUB
Ballroom FREE
Salsa/Mambo and Blues
Dance lessons

★ 7 p.m., Michaelsen
126, Annual English
department poetry
reading

12

★ 7 p.m.,
Music
Building
Recital Hall,
Faculty
Concert: Daniel Lipori,
bassoon, with Maria
Roditeleva-Wibe, piano



Photo courtesy of Flowmotion

Flowmotion will play tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. This will be the second time this academic year they have played at a First Friday Dance.

Flowmotion returns for some Friday funk

by Jackie Molzhon
Staff reporter

Back by popular request, Flowmotion, a jam/funk band from Seattle, will return to the Moose Lodge tomorrow to play at the First Friday Dance.

Flowmotion played at the First Friday Dance in September of this year and was requested to return to Ellensburg for an encore.

"They play incredible music, they're great people, incredibly talented and fun to dance to," said Ren Albright, who books the bands for The First Friday Night Dance Club.

Flowmotion played at the Bummer-shoot Music Festival 2003 in Seattle, the White River Amphitheater in Auburn and headlined at the Crystal Ballroom in Portland this year. They also played with other popular bands such as Widespread Panic and G-Love and the Special Sauce. Flowmotion will also be playing in the Samuelson Union Building pit tomorrow from noon to 1 p.m. before their evening performance in the Moose Lodge.

The First Friday Dance came about when a survey was sent out to Central Washington University students about what changes could be made about the Art Walk. Many responded they wanted

something to do afterward, such as a dance. For three years now, the non-profit organization, The First Friday Dance Club, has been putting on dances with live, danceable music for the Ellensburg community to enjoy.

"One of the best things about First Friday Dances is that everyone dances, no waiting around to be asked, if the spirit moves you, go out to the dance floor and start dancing," said Mollie Edson, a committee member of The First Friday Dance Club in a letter to the Observer. "It is a really cool thing to see people of all ages out on the dance floor enjoying themselves."

The bands are paid by money made at the door; and because more students and people from the Ellensburg community have been going, The First Friday Dance Club has been able to get some bigger name bands from Seattle such as Flowmotion.

First Friday Dance takes place every first Friday of the month. Doors open at 8 p.m. tomorrow night at the Moose Lodge on N. Main at and Flowmotion will be playing at 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$7 at the door and \$5 with student ID. Bar with ID.

Last month the Moose Lodge closed its doors because it hit maximum capacity, so be sure to show up early.

First Friday Events

Gallery One displays talent of local artists

by Thomas Stockton
Staff reporter

The First Friday Art Walk, Ellensburg's monthly art exhibition, is a great way to support local artists and enjoy their artwork. The Ellensburg Arts Commission puts together this self-guided walking tour of many art venues located downtown.

One of the venues is Gallery One, which is located in Ellensburg's Historical Downtown. Gallery One will display pieces of artwork from different local artists.

"It changes every month," said Judy Bender, an employee of Gallery One.

Gallery One's featured artist for this month is Sarah Thompson. She is a resident of Cle Elum and has lived in Kittitas County since 1999. This will be her first show at Gallery One.

Thompson, a native of New Orleans, has studied painting at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and the University of Washington. Thompson paints flowers, animals, people and landscapes using an array of bright and warm colors. Her art has been shown in many different venues and events since the early 1980s, including her own solo shows.

Natalie Lupton will also be featured this Friday in the Eveleth Green Gallery,

which is located on the second level of Gallery One. Lupton is a professor in the information technology and administrative management department at Central Washington University. Since July 2005 she has regularly shown her work at Gallery One. She will be presenting her artwork called "psy-kaH-de'l-iHk - an altered state of awareness," which is a collection of digital media works.

Lupton created these works of art by distorting digital pixels and modifying her original artwork and photographs. Each viewer can interpret each piece of artwork differently.

Gallery One will also have a brief display of children's art from Kittitas County elementary schools.

The Art Walk will take place from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. this Friday at various downtown locations. Gallery One will have an introduction shortly after the beginning of the Art Walk, which will feature live performances by the local Pearl Street Band and the improv talent of High Impact. All of the art and entertainment is free for everyone to view and enjoy.

A map of the different venues is available on the Ellensburg Arts Commission Web site, www.ellensburgarts.com.

FRIDAY

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ALL AGES

Friday 7th
8 p.m.
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Rugby looking
towards playoffs
Page 12

Sepanski displays
talent on the
diamond
Page 13

Lacrosse shows
heart in weekend
losses
Page 14

SPORTS

Wildcats fall to GNAC leaders

by Jordan Montgomery
Staff reporter

Last weekend hosted an important series for Central Washington University baseball. The Western Oregon Wolves came to Tomlinson Field to continue a great tradition of Wildcat rivalry. The Wolves would come away with a four-game sweep which featured two come-from-behind victories.

The Wildcats, who are in need of a win, played the first two games of this important four-game series on Sunday, April 2. The team, eager to play their long time rivals on their home turf, played well, but could not secure a victory in either game. These two losses added to the five-game losing streak the team had from their series against Hawaii Pacific University the weekend before. Though the team played well, certain fundamental errors prevented any wins in that series. The team looked to prepare for their rivals, Western Oregon.

"We need to put that behind us, and get over this slump. We just made some key mistakes," said Coach Desi Storey. "They are a good program [Western Oregon] and we have to play good baseball."

As if the tension could not build any more, the series, which was supposed to be hosted by Western Oregon, was moved to Ellensburg due to wet weather conditions, giving the Wildcats home field advantage. The day finally came

that would start the series; however, the condition of the field forced more delays and the eventual cancellation of the double header. On Sunday, the much anticipated match up finally started and it did not disappoint. Although the weather put a wet chill to the air, the action kept spectators watching.

In the first game the Western Oregon Wolves took an early lead in the top of the first when the Wolves' junior outfielder Boo Christenson hit a long ball over the fence. This run was the only one given up by Wildcat starter Isaac Finch until the very end. The Wildcats held the Wolves to a one-run lead for eight innings. Meanwhile, the Wildcats could not get it done offensively. Wolves starter Nick Waechter held the Wildcats to only five hits in his eight innings on the mound while walking three, eventually earning himself his sixth win.

In this very close game, the tension would break in the top of the ninth, when the Wolves erupted, scoring a six-run streak. With two outs and two men on, Wolves shortstop Paul Fisher hit a three-run bomb over the left field wall. With that hit, the floodgates opened and the Wolves brought in another three runs, two from a double to center-field by Western Oregon's first baseman, junior Travis Coursey. The Wildcats could not rise from such a deficit, nor put any numbers on the board, and the game would go in the books as a loss, 7-0.



Justin Mumm/Observer

Central starter Isaac Finsch delivers to Western Oregon slugger Nick Skudrick during the opening matchup of a four game set this past weekend against the Western Oregon Wolves. The Wolves took game one 7-0.

"We had some trouble moving the runners," said senior first baseman Tanner Swanson. "They capitalized on the little things in the game when we didn't."

With that behind them, the Wildcats

had another chance to get their win and get out of their slump in their nightcap game. Once again, the Wolves struck first by putting three runs on the board from a combination of aggressive base running and solid hitting. They put one

more on the board in the second inning before the Wildcats could answer back.

In the bottom of the fourth, Tanner

see Baseball, page 9 ►

Rugby primed for playoffs this weekend

by Elliott Stock
Staff reporter

The University of Idaho rugby squad, showed up 15 minutes late, one player short and horribly overmatched.

The Central Washington Wildcats used Idaho's lack of preparation to their advantage, running a full field practice to better prepare for the game, and winning 79-0.

"Idaho's lateness gave us more preparation, and a much bigger drive to win," said John Douglas, who did not play against Idaho due to injury.

The Idaho team lacked experience and size against a more skillful Central team, with four of Idaho's fourteen players having never played a game of rugby before.

Douglas, one of Central's leaders, is sure that this is one of the strongest teams Central has ever had.

"Our team has a lot of heart" Douglas said.

Along with their great team chemistry and constant drive to get better, the Central rugby program is moving forward. Central competes with divisional teams such as Washington State University, University of Washington, University of Oregon, Oregon State, and rival Western Washington University.

This season, Central has lost only one divisional game, to Washington State, which is ranked number 10 nationally.

Central, who are 8-3-1 this season, is continually gaining more and more recognition for its rugby program,

which recently received honorable mention at the national standings.

This weekend, Central rugby is hosting the first round of the playoffs for the first time in Central rugby history. The action starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, when the University of Oregon will take on the University of Utah. Following that game, Central will take on Saint Mary's at 12 p.m.

If victorious, Central will play the winner of the Oregon-Utah game for a chance to compete in the Sweet 16 in New York. The winners of both games on Saturday will play on Sunday at 2 p.m., while the losers of Saturday's game will play Sunday at 12 p.m.

"It will be a tough game, and we'll have to play hard to win" said Eddie Sakalia, a first year player for Central.

Sakalia, who scored two tries against Idaho, is confident in Central's ability, which will have a healthy team going into Saturday's game. The Wildcats played Saint Mary's twice this season, resulting in a tie and loss and look to avenge their previous meeting.

Saint Mary's may be without a few of their players to injury, including their star Fly Half Damian Fatonga, who is having eligibility problems as a fifth year senior.

"The key to victory in the playoffs will be to play tough as a team, and not make mistakes" said John Douglas, who will be playing this Saturday.

Hosting the first round of the playoffs is going to be one of the biggest moments in Central Rugby history.

Rugby Playoff Picture

April 8-9, Ellensburg

April 8

Match A: 10 am
Oregon vs. Utah

Match B: 12 pm
Central vs. Saint Mary's

April 9

Match C: 12 pm
Loser of A vs loser of B

Match D: 2 pm
Winner of A vs. winner of B

Outcome

Winner of Match D go to the Sweet 16 in New York.

Softball struggles to find rhythm

By Lander Sholdt
Staff reporter

Central Washington University's women's softball team had an unfortunate four game loss in last weekend's series in Turlock, California against San Bernardino (1-6), Grand Canyon (0-2), Sonoma State (2-3) and San Francisco State (3-2).

"I am not discouraged and neither is the team" said coach Gary Frederick, "We have the potential to do so well."

The potential to do well was shown in their last game vs. Notre Dame de Namure (12-5). Although the series had an unfortunate amount of losses, Central will be heading into their next series with a strong win.

"Softball is a game where a couple of runs is all you need," said Frederick.

Although the first run of the Central vs. San Francisco State game was made in the second inning by Central first baseman Mallory Holtman, it was not enough for a win. Wildcat shortstop Liz Ashworth hit to short stop allowing Holtman to score. San Francisco State caught up soon enough when Nicole Hartfield singled up the middle and Danielle Russo scored. Still tied in the third inning, Central centerfielder Jenna Bellamy scored, putting the Wildcats ahead 2-1. Barthola may scored after Lauren Dowell hit a ground ball to short

see Softball, page 16 ►

Schedule/Standings

This week

Sunday, April 9th
vs. Western Washington

April 14-15
at Western Oregon

GNAC Standings

Team	W	L	Pct.
Humboldt St.	7	0	1.000
Western Or.	2	0	1.000
Seattle	3	1	.750
Central Wash	6	6	.500
NW Nazarene	2	4	.333
St. Martin's	1	8	.111
West. Wash.	0	2	.000

Sepanski does it all for Wildcat baseball

by Jon Mentzer
Senior reporter

When coach Desi Storey was filling out his fall season lineup card for the Central Washington University baseball team, senior catcher and utility player Chris Sepanski was scratched from the lineup.

That was then. Now Sepanski is not

"We got Scotty, D-Jack, Finch and Moose who are throwing great. I was just the fifth man in the rotation."

—Chris Sepanski
Senior catcher/pitcher

only catching for the Wildcats again, but pitching too. "This year I am just having fun. Everyday I come out here and I get to hang out with all these guys and it's just a lot of fun."

After Sepanski spoke with Storey about his future, and when family troubles and personal issues came into the picture, he decided not to play his senior season. On the verge of graduating with a business degree, Sepanski had trouble grasping that baseball just was not as fun as it used to be. Last year he was too busy trying to put up numbers and impress scouts so a professional baseball team could draft him. He was strictly business with no fun; Sepanski lost his passion for the game.

"During the winter I wasn't a member of Central Washington baseball," said the 6'3" Swiss Army knife. "I had a



Justin Mumm/Observer

Central Washington catcher/pitcher Chris Sepanski warms up for practice during a chilly February afternoon. Sepanski has had a stellar season for the Wildcats, hitting .346 while splitting time behind the plate.

lot of stuff to take care of."

Without Sepanski's bat and reliable glove in the lineup during the fall season, Storey said it actually helped the team overall. Junior Parker Smollen filled in and gave the Wildcats an additional threat at catcher.

"If he came back, then there was a higher expectation of him," Storey said. "He didn't spend time in the fall with new teammates. There is also a smaller margin of error to screw up."

Sepanski took a strange path to get

to Central. Growing up in Illinois, he was recruited by Tulane University to play catcher. Living in New Orleans for a year, he felt like he did not fit in. So he came to Washington to be closer to his family and his sister who gave birth to twins at the time. While in Washington, he played at Everett Community College hoping to get drafted. When getting drafted was not working out he spoke with Storey and the rest is history.

"I talked with coach and he wanted me to come out and I liked the small

town atmosphere and I just kinda fit in."

Sepanski's two-seam fastball and curveball are his top two pitches. He describes his slider more like a cutter and uses his split-finger fastball when he is ahead with two strikes. He likes his split-finger to get low to the dirt to make the hitter try and chase it. Thus far, Sepanski has made 12 batters chase his pitches for strikeouts on only three appearances. He is posting a 1.26 ERA, which is second best on the team. Batters struggle to even get on base when

facing the big right-hander; they are only hitting .174 against him.

Storey is in no rush to keep him on the mound though. He said that he wants to be careful of Sepanski's arm and give him enough rest. His spot will still be behind home plate instead of in front of it.

"We got four starting guys who are throwing great and there is no need to change that," Sepanski said. "We got Scotty (Parrish), D-jack (David Jackson), (Isaac) Finch, and Moose (Mike Morris) who are throwing great. I was just the fifth man in the rotation."

When Sepanski is on the mound and not behind the plate, senior catcher Kevin Knutsen takes the duty. Calling a similar type of game, Sepanski believes that it is easier to get in sink with a catcher like Knutsen.

"Having a catcher like Kev back there gives you a lot of confidence right off the bat when you go out there," Sepanski said. "You know that what he's going to call is a pitch that he feels he can get other hitters out with, and you know that if you throw a ball in the dirt or if you throw a pitch that is tough to catch, you know he's gonna block it and keep people from advancing. It's just a lot easier when you have someone like Kevin back there."

As the relationship between a pitcher and catcher is important, Sepanski says that having a good rhythm between the two positions makes it easier to get outs.

"We're always on the same page," Knutsen said. "A good bat is hard to find and you need that."

Sepanski is split between the two positions. While he likes them both, he loves to hit. His .346 batting average is third on the team. He is second with 27 hits and has 21 RBIs while sporting a hefty .525 slugging percentage.

If Sepanski never came back this season, there would be a huge hole in the lineup.

"Offensively we would have had to make adjustments," said Storey. "It's nice to have him hitting in the third spot."

Luckily for Storey and the Wildcat baseball team, Sepanski decided to arrive in time for the season.

Baseball news

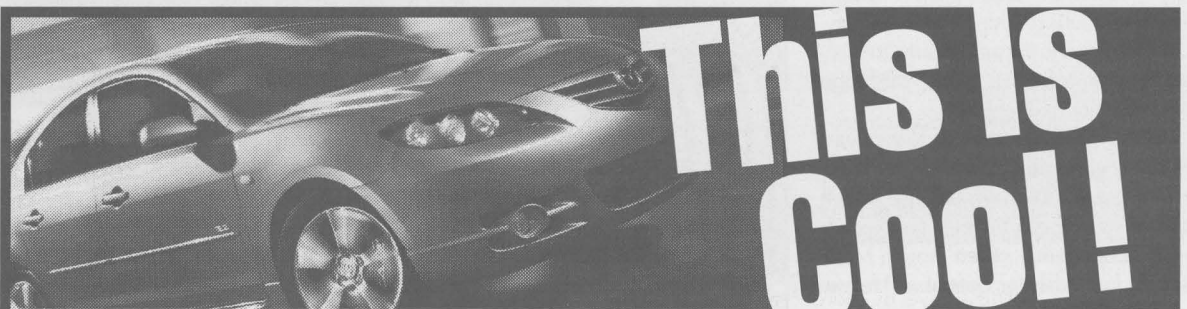
This week's home schedule:

Friday April 7 vs Northwest Nazarene University @ 1 p.m.

Saturday April 8 vs Northwest Nazarene University @ Noon.

GNAC standings:

Team	W	L	PCT.
West. Oregon	17	10	.607
NW Nazarene	12	16	.427
Central Wash.	10	14	.417
St. Martin's	8	14	.364



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Track team goes to Bellingham, places third

by Tyler Lobe
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University men's and women's track team traveled to Bellingham last weekend to compete in the twenty-fifth annual Western Washington University/Ralph Vernacchia Team Track and Field meet against seven other northwest schools. They both finished with a convincing third place finish with 65.5 and 63 points, respectively.

Western Washington's men took the top spot for the ninth year in a row while Western Washington's women snapped a six-year run by Seattle Pacific University with their first place finish.

"We are still in the early stages of the outdoor season," Coach Kevin Adkisson said. "But we've had some really good marks so far."

The Wildcat men's 4x100 meter relay finished first with a mark of 43.37 seconds. It was good enough to set the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) top performance for this season, passing their previous conference-best by just three one-hundredths of a second (43.40).

Senior Jason Roberts, who was part of the 4x100 meter relay, ran with the men's 4x400 meter relay, which also posted a season-high mark, giving them a first place finish. They broke the previous conference-best (3:24.21) with a 3:23.2 mark, finishing just two-tenths of a second in front of the University of British Columbia squad.

Sophomore Robert Edwards, a member of the 4x400 meter relay, also ran in the 110 meter hurdles, taking first



Justin Mumm/Observer

Sophomore Cameron Bailey rises to the challenge in preparation for this weekend's track meet in Woodinville.

in that event, finishing with a mark of 15.59 seconds.

Other notable men's performances include the triple jump in which sophomore Cameron Bailey finished second with a jump of 44 feet, 2 inches. Junior Ian Wells came away with a second place finish in the javelin throw with a distance of 164 feet, 9 inches. In the 10k meter Run, freshman Jonathan Rank finished second as well, running a 32:04.2 minute marathon. Senior Mike Kelley also finished second in the 800 meter event, finishing just over two seconds behind the leader at 1:58.36.

Senior Cresap Watson, a member of

the first place 4x100 meter relay team, competed in the WWU Spring Forward Multi-Events on Sunday and Monday in the decathlon, finishing second with a score of 5,713 points while sophomore teammate Scott McCoy placed third (5,265).

Junior Cameron Neel, who received All-American Honors and a third-place finish at the 2006 NCAA Division II Indoor Track & Field Championships in Boston this winter, did not compete last weekend; however, he has already set a provisional national qualifying mark in the shot put.

"It is good to see he is there,"

Adkisson said on Neel's qualifying shot put throw of 56 feet, 10-1/4 inches.

On the women's side, senior Ashley Rountree took home first place in the 100 meter hurdles, crossing the finish line in 15.86 seconds while sophomore teammate Kara Nygard finished third (16.60). Rountree and Nygard joined freshman Amanda Gius and senior Teresa Schlafer in the 4x100 meter relay finishing third with a 50.42 second campaign. Gius also ran the 4x400 meter relay who took second place with a 4:12.34 minute mark.

Nygard also competed in the WWU Spring Forward Multi-Events in the hep-

tathlon, finishing third with 3,167 points.

Other notable women's performances include senior Rachel Bailey, junior Katie Hummel and senior Brandy Anderson, who finished second (10:22.1), third (10:36.1) and fourth (10:56.9), respectively, in the 3,000 meter event. Freshman Emily Uhlig was the only female athlete to compete and finish in the 3,000 meter steeplechase, finishing with a 12:48.88 minute mark.

Adkisson also says that his athletes have a great deal of potential to qualify and compete in the GNAC championships coming up at the end of April.

"We are definitely one of the larger teams in the conference," Adkisson said. "We're always fighting for top spots with Western Washington and Western Oregon on the men's side, while adding Seattle Pacific on the women's side."

As the season moves on, the competition gets tougher and Adkisson thinks that his teams can deal with the adversity.

"We are going into the [middle] of the [outdoor] season," Adkisson said. "And it's hard because we are transitioning from the indoor season to the outdoor season. Spring break is always tough because [the athletes] are expected to train on their own time, so getting back into the routine (of practice) is always difficult."

The teams are scheduled to compete in the Spike Arlt Invitational on Saturday, April 15 at Tomlinson Stadium. For most of the athletes, it will be the last chance to qualify for the GNAC Championships on April 24 and 25.

Lacrosse falls in tough weekend contests

Nolan Teasley
Staff reporter

The rain falling from the sky wasn't the only thing putting a damper on the Central Washington University men's lacrosse team. Losing consecutive games to two conference rivals was as gloomy as the weekends weather.

The Wildcats fell to archrival Western Washington University 17-7 on Saturday and then came up short against Whitman College losing 9-6 on Sunday.

"Western just came ready to play and got on top of us early," said John Mack, senior midfielder.

The Wildcats trailed four to zero early in the game and couldn't get enough balls past the Western defense which boasts statistically the best goalkeeper in the conference. Even though Mack scored four goals for Central and fellow senior midfield assailant TJ Serriane led the team with two assists, in the end the Vikings discipline and ball control proved to be too much.

"It was a hard fought game but unfortunately we came up on the losing end," said Serriane.

Sunday's game was much more competitive as Whitman and Central exchanged goals early in the first quarter. After a tough game the day before, however, fatigue seemed to set in with the Wildcats trailing five to three at the end of the first half.

The Central defense led by senior defenseman Rich Albo, tightened up by pitching a third quarter shutout until Whitman added four more goals in the fourth and final stanza to seal the game.

After beginning the season with two straight losses to conference foes Alberson College and Western Oregon University the playoffs seemed to be an afterthought.

Still the team never ran out of optimism, effort or sheer determination. After an upset win over a strong Southern Oregon University squad and



Justin Mumm/Observer

The Central Washington lacrosse team look to rally together during this weekends' games versus Western Washington and Whitman.

another solid victory soon following over Lewis and Clark College later in the season the Cats entered last weekend's games with an even record and a chance to make up some ground. In order to become eligible for a playoff spot Central needs to be one of the top two teams in the Pacific Northwest Collegiate Lacrosse League. Unfortunately,

after failing to take advantage of their home stand and now having a record of just two wins and four losses, Central will face the difficult task of having to win all three of their final games for a shot at the playoffs.

Regardless, confidence and fortitude run aplenty through these Wildcats and they seemed to have found the sunshine

through the clouds and drizzling weather.

"After two tough losses this weekend we learned a lot, and we are going to use those lessons to get the best of PLU and UPS," said senior attacker Alan Colombo.

Following the team's last two home games this coming weekend against

Pacific Lutheran University and the University of Puget Sound, they will travel to Montana on April 15 to finish up their season against a very good Grizzly team that made the national playoffs last season. After all the persistence the Cats have shown this year the Lutes, Loggers and Grizz may need all the help they can get.

Baseball: Team continues losing skid

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Swanson brought in the Cats' first run in 12 innings with a double up the middle that drove senior catcher Kevin Knutsen in. In the fifth, Wildcat senior designated hitter Chris Sepanski brought in the next run with a sacrifice fly to center field. Regardless the game ended with the Wolves victorious, 4-2. This double header brought the Wildcat record to 10-12 on the year and 0-2 in the GNAC (Great Northwest Athletic Conference).

However the Wildcats looked toward Monday April 3 as a chance to turn the series around. Their first game of the day looked to be promising with senior Scott Parish starting on the mound for the Wildcats. He kept the Wolves at bay for five innings, while his team tried to give him adequate offensive support. This time the Cats were first to strike with a triple by sophomore right fielder Mike Carrigan. It set him up to score when junior left fielder Justin Marshall sent a shot to shortstop which was deep enough to force Wolves short-stop Paul Fisher to have to throw across to first base.

The Cats held the lead for one more inning until the top of the fifth when a lucky shot found the hole between first and second for a single, allowing Wolves designated hitter Travis Coursey to score. With a tied game the fans hoped for something wonderful, which is exactly what they got. Sophomore



Justin Mumm/Observer

Central catcher Kevin Knutsen (right) leads the Wildcats off the field after successfully shutting the Wolves order down in game one on Sunday.

Wildcat shortstop Jamie Nilson started the inning off with a walk. Justin Marshall then blasted a ball over the left field wall, bringing in two runs and giving the Wildcats the lead once again.

That lead lasted one inning when the Wolves found a new determination and scored two runs in the seventh, one in the eighth, and six in the ninth, leaving the Wildcats in their wake, 10-4.

The Wildcats were left with one chance to break their losing streak and save the series. The Wildcats found a

weakness in Wolves starter Adam Hoffman, and started a five-run rally in the second. With a four run-lead, Wildcats starter Mike Morris kept the Wolves offense on their toes up until the fifth where the Wolves shrank the Cats lead to one. As if it were inevitable, the Wolves tied up the game in the top of the seventh. With a double from their third basemen Aaron Sutton, the Wolves found themselves with a man in scoring position, two outs and a chance to pull ahead once again. With Sutton

on base, every Cat fan hoped for just one more out to give Central the win. Sutton came home by a miraculous double which landed just fair of the right field line by Wolves first basemen Kevin Corrigan. Going into extra innings the wolves started another rally, adding three runs to the board in the tenth, thus sealing the series fate. The Wildcats could not recover and were swept from this series.

"It's kind of a mystery," said second baseman Tanner Swanson. "There really

wasn't that many errors, it is our mind set, we forgot what it's like to win. "We're confident we can turn it around, if we can just do the little things it takes to win."

The Cats play again at Tomlinson Field on April eighth and ninth at noon against Northwest Nazarene in which they have had success in the past. They get another shot against the Wolves on Western Oregon again on the weekend of April 29-30 down in Monmouth, Oregon.

Wolves continue to be thorn in side of Central

by Courtney Naccarato
Staff reporter

When the Central Washington Wildcats face off against the Western Oregon Wolves, they see a team that has been the GNAC champion for five straight years. That is why when the two faced off this past weekend in Ellensburg, it was such a huge event.

The Wildcats entered the series with a 10-10 record. But this was their first series in the league.

"It's no more important to beat them [Western Oregon] than anyone else," said Wildcat baseball coach Desi Storey.

Unlike the Wildcats, the Wolves have already played four league games against Northwest Nazarene. They entered the series versus the Wildcats 13-11.

Coming into the weekend, both coaches took note of their teams strengths and weaknesses.

Central is strong in their pitching department. They can also hit well.

For the Wolves, team chemistry and hustle is what gets them far yet inconsistent pitching seems to be a problem.

"Central holds the same passion as we do," said Western Oregon's head baseball coach Jeremiah Robbins.

The Wildcats had a problem with inconsistent pitching and struggled to put runs on the board.

Central dropped all four in the series, proving that they still have problems against Western Oregon. The Wildcats struggled to put runs on the board throughout the weekend and hold up an improved pitching staff.

The first two games of the series set the tone for the entire weekend. In both games, the pitching staff threw well, but the offense failed to put enough runs on the board.

The Wildcats walk away from the series 10-14 in the league. They are 0-4 in GNAC.

The Wolves now are 17-11 in the league. They come ahead 6-2 in GNAC.

"Hopefully we won't continue with the dumb mental mistakes," said Desi Storey.

The traditional rivalry these two teams share leaves the Wildcats with another bittersweet memory of the Wolves. GNAC has been around for five years and the Wolves have won every year.

In game two of the 2005 series against the Wolves, the seven inning game went into extra innings when a two run lead was given up. The Wildcats went on to lose the other two games.

Now that the Wolves won this series, it has been eight straight games in a row that the Wildcats have lost to the Wolves on their own turf.

If this was professional baseball, consider the Wildcats the Red Sox and the Wolves the Yankees.



Justin Mumm/Observer

Isaac Finch throws heat versus the Wolves at Tomlinson Field.

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CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

SOFTBALL: Softball team drops its sixth straight in recent slide

◀ continued from 12

stop. San Francisco's Nicole Cirimele helped take the lead with an RBI in the top of the seventh. Central still had a chance to catch up in the bottom of the seventh, but they could not pull ahead in time. SFS walked away with a win, while Central had to focus on their next game against Notre Dame.

"Since we have a young pitching staff, we need to score some runs, and hit well," Frederick said.

The Wildcats showed their ability to score runs and hit well in their game vs. Notre Dame. In the first inning, Notre Dame's Keeney grounded out to short stop allowing VanMeter to score the first run of the game.

Central third baseman Catrina Robertson was walked and advanced to

second on a sacrifice bunt by Annie Becker. With the bases loaded, Holtman, who batted .500 in the tournament, launched a home run to left field putting Central ahead 4-1.

Notre Dame pulled ahead in the second inning with a quick four runs. Central picked up their game in the third inning, not allowing Notre Dame to score again. The Wildcats took over with an offensive explosion to close out the contest. They scored each of the four innings, putting Notre Dame into submission. Holtman finished with five RBI's and two runs scored. Karla Johnson went two for three with three RBI's and two runs scored. Central crushed Notre Dame with a final score of 12-5.

"Although it was a rough weekend, the team played very well," Frederick said.

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